

# Farmington News

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Photo courtesy Chad Smith

## THE FARMINGTON BAY BIRD REFUGE

*Solitude...is what sustains me...It renders me fully present. I am desert. I am mountains. I am Great Salt Lake. There are other languages being spoken by wind, water, and wings. There are other lives to consider: avocets, stilts, and stones. Peace is the perspective found in patterns...We are no more and no less than the life that surrounds us. My fears surface in my isolation. My serenity surfaces in solitude.*

*from Refuge, by  
Terry Tempest Williams*

The last orange glimmer of sunset trembles on the bay. The western horizon is lost beyond the rise and fall of mountains. A few birds, black against the coming night, drift in silence. Always, there is water, its surface still but moving, elegant but practical, inviting but self-contained. To the east, the sprawl of clustered light illuminates the mountainside. But here, at the edge of Farmington Bay, sun and moon and stars prevail. Here, the world feels old, the rhythms of water and wind ancient, the whisper of wing-beats eternal.

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## CONSIDERING PUBLIC SERVICE PRIORITIES: *That's the City Council's Business*

by Max Forbush, City Manager

With the downturn in the economy, everybody is concerned about stretching the value of the dollar and living within one's means. City government should be no different. City officials have had to make hard choices lately. Revenues are down and corresponding cuts in expenditures (\$612,000 or nearly 9% of budget) have been made to balance the budget. This process has caused a great deal of discussion and introspection amongst community leaders and employees. Without getting into a lot of detail, the City Council has decided the city will save where it can, but certain services should not be cut while others should be carefully evaluated.

### SNOW REMOVAL

One municipal service of utmost importance is snow removal. While some cities have reduced the level of snow removal service, Farmington City officials have



directed the level of service to remain unchanged. Safe driving conditions are a priority and will remain such through this winter season.

Commendation is deserving to the city's Public Works Department who do an outstanding job in snow removal. These employees work hard and are greatly inconvenienced especially during the holidays when most people are home with their families. The city's governing body and I very much appreciate the dedication of these employees. I am sure most citizens share the same feelings.

### EXTENDED USE OF THE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

Another service priority recently discussed by the City Council is expanding the available hours to citizens who want

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to rent the Community Center for private or family events. After all, Farmington taxpayers are paying for this facility. To accomplish this goal, the City Council has decided to open the Community Arts Center on Sundays and holidays. Also the spring "dinner theatre" event is being discontinued to make more rental time available for Farmington residents. Although this event has been wonderful, a large percentage of those who attend are non-Farmington residents and the event revenues barely meet the cost of production.

*Citizens are encouraged to contact the city's Parks and Recreation Office should they want to schedule the building for personal or family use.*

## REFOCUS ON COMMUNITY PERFORMING ARTS

In an effort to (1) reduce operational costs and (2) enhance citizen usage of the Community Arts Center, the performing arts programming is being slightly adjusted. Emphasis on performing arts for Farmington's youth is being retained. Two youth plays per year will continue to be scheduled. The tradition of having a summer play at Woodland Park will remain. An annual dinner theatre production will be scheduled each fall, but the spring dinner theatre is being discontinued for reasons stated above.

As a result, the city is restructuring the contract for a "Performing Arts Coordinator," making it a partly volunteer/partly paid position. This position is now open for anyone wishing to apply. The city is looking at candidates who have a love for the arts and who are willing to serve as a broker/promoter of the performing arts, who will encourage volunteerism and community pride in the arts. The position will be more manager/broker related and less day to day operational oriented.

It is hoped that community pride and volunteerism will continue to motivate individuals to become producers and directors of performing arts events and that they in turn will recruit and invite lots of participants. (Refer to the related recruitment notice in this newsletter!) The Performing Arts Coordinator will work under the general direction of the Parks and Recreation Director. Performing Arts programming will continue to be part of the Parks and Recreation Department. ●



The Neighbor-to-Neighbor Response Program has provided much needed relief to qualified Utahns. Of the amount of money collected in four counties (Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele), more than \$135,000 has been granted to agencies serving Davis County to be used for rent and mortgage assistance, emergency shelter, transportation, utility assistance, and financial education. Without this assistance, many families would have been turned away.

The Food Bank at the Family Connection Center in Layton has seen a 30% increase in new clients since last year, and the level of desperation has increased in its clients. For the first time, they have had clients "dumpster diving" to find the things they need.

Citizens responded with 26 known, coordinated drives conducted within Davis County. Many more were conducted, but not registered.

According to Lynne Shaffer of the United Way, "The response has been remarkable, especially from Farmington City! Under the strong

leadership of Mayor Harbertson, the residents of Farmington City donated generously to the community. Some families even lessened their personal holiday gift-giving to share with those in need."

The Layton Food Bank and the Bountiful Food Pantry report that approximately 142,800 pounds, consisting mostly of food, but also diapers, baby wipes, blankets, underwear and socks, were collected and attributed to the county-wide efforts of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Response Program. The value of this generosity is approximately \$215,000 back into the community. Between the money that was granted and the value of all of the products that were donated, more than \$350,000 in assistance has been provided to Davis County families/individuals to meet immediate needs and some longer-term needs.

In the four-county service area, communities responded by raising \$1,969,927 in cash and donated products.

United Way will present a final report to Mayors in mid-February.

## PERFORMING ARTS COORDINATOR POSITION

Farmington City is recruiting for a person interested in the performing arts to serve as a Performing Arts Coordinator. This is a contractual position intended to be partially volunteer and partially compensated. (Please refer to the *Public Service Priorities* article in this newsletter for further details.) For further information, contact Neil Miller, Parks and Recreation Director at 451-0953 or nmiller@farmington.utah.gov. A letter of application may also be mailed to Neil Miller, PO Box 160, Farmington, Utah or delivered to the Parks and Recreation Office, 720 W 100 N.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## February 2009



Photo courtesy Chad Smith

Feb 3	TUES	City Council Meeting 130 North Main Street	7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov
Feb 4	WED	Town Hall Meeting <i>an open forum discussion with Mayor Harbertson and a City Council Member</i>	7:00 pm no agenda open discussion
Feb 7	SAT	Miss Farmington Orientation Community Arts Center	10:00 am
Feb 9	MON	Basketball Sign-ups Begin Online or at Parks & Recreation	
Feb 12	THURS	Planning Commission Meeting 130 North Main Street	7:00 pm
Feb 14	SAT	Bald Eagle Day at the <i>Great Salt Lake Nature Center</i> 1700 West Glover Lane	8:00 am - 4:00 pm (801) 589-2373
Feb 17	TUES	City Council Meeting 130 North Main Street	7:00 pm for agenda see farmington.utah.gov
Feb 18	WED	Town Hall Meeting <i>an open forum discussion with Mayor Harbertson and a City Council Member</i>	7:00 pm no agenda open discussion
Feb 19	THURS	City Trails Committee Meeting 130 North Main Street	7:00 pm
Feb 25	WED	Historic Preservation Commission 130 North Main Street	7:30 pm public welcome
Feb 26	THURS	Planning Commission Meeting 130 North Main Street	7:00 pm

### ...just a few more weeks to go

Until the end of February no vehicle of any kind may be parked in the street right-of-way between 1:00 am and 7:00 am. Traffic citations will be issued to violators.

### City Information

Scott Harbertson, Mayor  
scottharbo@msn.com

### City Council Members

Paula Alder  
paula@alderfam.com  
Rick Dutson  
rdutson@dutsonbuilders.com  
David S. Hale  
dave@hale.net  
Cory Ritz  
critz@foragegenetics.com  
Sid Young  
sidyoung1@msn.com

### City Operations / City Manager

Max Forbush  
mforbush@farmington.utah.gov

### City Phone Numbers

Main Number.....451-2383  
City Manager.....939-9203  
Police Department.....451-5453  
Fire Department.....451-2842  
Public Works Department..451-2624  
Storm Water Maintenance.451-2624  
Parks & Recreation.....451-0953  
Building Inspection.....451-2383  
Water Department.....451-2624  
Planning & Zoning.....451-2383  
Historical Museum.....451-4850  
Animal Control.....444-2200  
Garbage.....825-3800  
Benchland Water District...482-4929  
Weber Water District.....771-1677

### After Hours Emergency

Davis County Sheriff.....451-4150  
Emergency.....911

### Farmington City Hall

130 North Main  
P O Box 160  
Farmington, Utah 84025

While driving on Highway 89, I-15 or Legacy, tune your radio to 1690 AM to hear continuous loop broadcasting about Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area Species, Habitat, Special Events and Site Updates.

# PARKS & RECREATION

Parks & Recreation 720 West 100 North 451-0953

Photo courtesy Chad Smith

## CHECK THE CITY WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING EVENTS AND CLASSES

### MISS FARMINGTON ORIENTATION

February 7  
10:00 am  
Community Arts Center  
For contestants between the ages  
17-23 and their mothers

### "SEUSSICAL JR"

Youth Theatre  
March 25-28, 7:00 pm  
March 28 matinee, 1:00 pm  
Tickets available online or at the  
Parks & Recreation office

### DIRECTORS PRODUCERS EVENT COORDINATORS

needed for the 2009 season.  
Interested persons should contact  
Parks & Recreation

### FABULOUS BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES

\$7/resident (per couple)  
\$10/ non-resident (per couple)  
For more details or to register go  
online or Parks & Recreation

### ONGOING SIGN-UPS

**CERAMICS**  
**GUITAR**  
**KARATE**  
**PLAY-ON THEATRE ACADEMY**  
**ARTS & CRAFTS CLASS**

**SWIMMING POOL EARLY  
BIRD SEASON PASSES** on  
sale for residents until May 15.  
\$125 for up to 5 people

### SWIMMING POOL POSITIONS

Farmington City Pool is now  
accepting applications for all  
positions- lifeguards, front desk  
and concessions. Applications  
available at Parks & Recreation

### WATER SAFETY INSTRUCTOR (WSI) CLASS

Class dates May 26, 27 and 28,  
June 2, 3 & 4  
Pre-class test required - check  
online or at Parks & Recreation for  
details

**LIFEGUARD CLASS** for people  
wanting to become Red Cross Cer-  
tified Lifeguards. Participants must  
be 15 years or older by the date  
the class starts.

Class dates  
May 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 & 21  
Time 4:30 - 9:30 pm  
Cost \$120  
Pre-class test required - check  
online or at Parks & Recreation for  
details



**SOCCER SIGN-UPS** for spring  
league begin  
January 14 - February 27  
\$35/resident + \$10 for uniform  
\$50/non-resident + \$10 for uniform

**SOCCER REFEREES** wanted.  
Applications are available at Parks  
& Recreation

### BOYS' JR. HIGH COMP BASKETBALL

Sign-ups begin February 9-13  
\$350 per team  
Wednesday night play

### BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Sign-ups begin February 9-13  
\$350 per team  
Tuesday night play

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sign-ups begin February 9-13  
\$350 per team  
Thursday night play

### MISS FARMINGTON

**PAGEANT** is seeking a director-  
elect to shadow the current director  
& take over the pageant next year.  
For more info call Sueann Phillips,  
447-8458



*In* a society driven by markets and machinery and in a community grappling with the relentlessness of fast-paced change, it's easy not to notice the sanctuary that stretches along our western border. It's easy not to give much thought to the



literally hundreds of thousands of migratory birds that nest in or depend upon local wetlands. Even the bald eagles—one of the few species of birds that makes a year-round home of the Farmington Bay area—can sometimes glide in near anonymity through a clear, January sky.

*But* inside the two spare, slate-colored buildings that constitute the classrooms of the Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay, good things are happening. According to its website, the Nature Center, which currently hosts field trips three or four days per week, provides approximately 10,000 students annually with hands-on

learning about the critical role wetlands play in the ecosystem and the economy. For example, many students are surprised to learn that 20 million pounds of brine shrimp eggs are harvested annually from Great Salt Lake wetlands, that these eggs are sold to prawn farmers overseas, and that the sales bring nearly 150 million dollars into Utah's economy. The Heron Rookery, a successful result of an Eagle Scout project, rises near the classrooms and affords students an opportunity to spot one of the several stately birds that haunt its series of nests.

*It* doesn't take a field trip to make Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area (WMA) worth experiencing, and the general public is beginning to recognize that. Interest in the wetlands is increasing, as evidenced by the roughly 80,000 people who visit each year and the need for more volunteers to help with programs. Long term plans even include a 14,000 square-foot visitor and education center.

*Ribboning* the Farmington Bay WMA are a series of dikes and trails that stretch for miles in a broken, maze-like network which begs

for exploration. Bordered by a heavy skirt of reeds, scattered ponds and occasional openings of bracken and scrub brush, the dikes and trails provide a perfect setting for family hikes or mountain bike rides. Bike loops are open seasonally and range from less than a mile to over ten miles in length. Because the terrain is not technically challenging, users are relatively free to take in the expanse of sky, as well as the inevitable rustle and flutter of the hundreds of birds they are likely to see.

As shoreline and surface ice recedes in late winter, Farmington Bay bursts into activity. Thousands of migratory birds return to forage for food and begin the nesting cycle. According to the Utah Division of Wildlife Services, ducks and geese begin arriving in later February, and several species of shorebirds and wading birds follow in March and April. Several hundred thousand waterbirds, songbirds, and raptors make various use of these wetlands every spring, and over 200 species have been verified within Farmington Bay WMA alone.



Want information about the Great Salt Lake Nature Center educational programs and activities? Call (801) 589-2373

Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area  
1325 West Glover Lane (925 South) in Farmington

The Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay WMA  
1700 West Glover Lane in Farmington

*Farmington's* heritage is intimately intertwined with the landscape. Seasonal cycles of wetlands and waterfowl help to define this community. To learn more about these remaining wild places is to learn more about ourselves. 🌿

# Have You Signed Up for Online City Surveys?

**Make your voice heard.**



Go to the website [www.farmington.utah.gov](http://www.farmington.utah.gov), click on **City Survey Email List** and follow the instructions.

**Get Involved.**



**Farmington Trails Committee**  
reminds you that winter hikes  
can be  
beautiful and rewarding

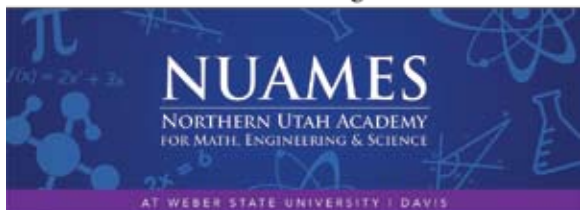


**FARMERS**  
184 West State Farmington  
Phone: 451-7156  
Cal's Cell: 913-9539

**YOUR PERSONAL INSURANCE TEAM,  
CAL AND BARBARA FADEL**



NUAMES, a public charter Early College high school partnered with WSU, is currently enrolling students who will be in grades 10-12



call 402-5920 or visit [www.nuames.net](http://www.nuames.net)



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